

DISTRICT VI ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes

Monday, October 2, 2000

7:00 p.m.

Evergreen Recreation Center, 2700 N. Woodland

Members Present

John Van Walleghen

Tony Rangel

Wendell Turner

Sharon Fearey

Bickley Foster

Linda Matney

Bob Schreck

Veronica Casados

Clarence Wiley

Greg Chinn

Members Absent

Doratheia Sloan

Guests

Pat Greenway, Make a Wish

Regina Sinclair, MD Assoc.

Stacey Warner, Sal. Army

Jeff Lopez, K of C

Paul Rothermel, K of C

Marcial Murillo

Council Member Cole called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council Member Cole welcomed guests and commented she is very happy with her process utilized to select DAB Members. **Cole** thanked DAB members for their thoughtful, sound advice.

-- Approval of Minutes

Council Member Cole asked everyone to introduce him or herself and identify the area or association represented. After introductions were complete, **Cole** asked for approval of the September 11th and 20th, 2000 minutes. The minutes were approved as submitted (Schreck/Matney). (8-0)

-- Approval of Agenda

Council Member Cole asked to approve, modifies, or amend the agenda presented. A motion to add item **Three (b)**, Inquiry about the 13th Street Car Lot sales and add item **Five**: Requests of informational materials for the October 18th DAB discussion on the Northwest Traffic Study (**Schreck/Casados**) motioned to approve the agenda as amended. (8-0).

PUBLIC AGENDA

The DAB listens to public comments regarding individual citizen concerns pertaining to the City of Wichita on issues not included on the agenda.

No items were submitted

PLANNING

No items have been submitted.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Charitable Solicitations

Council Member Cole stated that the *City Council* was asked to make a decision concerning Roadside Solicitation. Roadside Solicitation has made real problems at intersections and some groups (questionable out-of-towners) were not following any rules and were collecting money, more for a self-serving purpose. Tonight, we have a few organizations that would like to speak to the DAB on this topic.

Pat Greenway, Make a Wish Executive Director of Kansas, commented that she would like to see a resolution passed for a *permit system* to continue to allow solicitation on right-of-ways. The Make-a-Wish Foundation (MWF) has been collecting funds for the last 10 years in this manner. If this were no longer allowed, it would cause a 6% budget loss. They have no large cash reserve and need to fund raise for their organization. The MWF uses trained volunteers and has them sign a form that says they will not harass motorists. They have never had accidents or filed claims for insurance. Ms. Greenway is asking that the DAB support a *permit system* and MWF is willing to work with the City in order to keep Charitable Solicitation.

Staci Warner, Salvation Army, spoke to the need for Charitable Solicitation, as this is the way they can collect money for the Salvation Army Canteen (SAC). The SAC provides food for emergency workers in disaster situations; offer Social Worker assistance if needed. Also has helped with DUI victim's needs. The cost to operate the SAC is around \$33,000. The SAC project is an important need to the community. Ms. Warner asks that the DAB please support the need for Charitable Solicitation.

Regina Sinclair, Muscular Dystrophy Association, says she has the same feelings as the other two presenters, that the need for Charitable Solicitation is great. Having the Firefighters working on the streets with the annual Boot Walk can make a \$12,000 difference. This can purchase six wheelchairs, 119 follow-up visits and send children to camp. Ms. Sinclair is asking the DAB to please support Charitable Solicitation in some manner.

Jeff Lopez, Knights of Columbus Council 691, stated that the annual Tootsie Roll Drive is to support four agencies for the mentally retarded in Kansas, 80% of the contributions are for local agencies and 20% goes to the State. Mr. Lopez said that safety is the underlying concern for the City and commented that the Knights of Columbus also would like to see the DAB support a *permit system* for charitable solicitation.

Following are statements by the DAB:

Member Rangel inquired that the prime area for solicitation is Kellogg and Rock Road, but next year will be under construction. What is your alternative site?

Ms. Greenway answered that most of the non-profits solicit at different times of the year and if they were to choose an alternate site they would be willing to work amongst themselves and with the City as to what site they could use.

Member Fearey commented how many legitimate organizations are there?

Member Foster stated that he was confused by the ordinance. The ordinance states no roadside solicitation, but it is being allowed. Doesn't this cause the City to become liable? Since they allowed this to happen and isn't it being done now? What certain groups are you talking about?

Member Chinn asked how often does the solicitation happen and if it is at different intersections? Would each organization be limited to solicit just once a year?

Council Member Cole stated that safety is definitely an issue that needs to be researched. The rules had been waived to allow firemen to assist in the Charitable Solicitation. How do we handle garage sales? Maybe we need to piggy back on that. *Permit System* sounds good with rules and guidelines and to include insurance. There are too many organizations out for their own benefit.

Ms. Greenway stated that her organization is under an umbrella agency for insurance. If anyone was injured at a fundraiser, both volunteers would be covered. This lessens City liability.

Member Casados commented that a City employee could check on the soliciting groups to see if they are following the guidelines if a *permit system* is allowed.

Council Member Cole asked *Randy Sparkman, Zoning Supervisor*, if there is an attempt to monitor on a random basis garage sales?

Mr. Sparkman stated that yes there is an attempt to monitor garage sales, due to limited staff working during the week and garage sales are held on weekends, it is a difficult issue to regulate. Also, he is in favor of the organizations but if the City licenses this activity we are condoning what is being done. This first went from the fire department to anyone doing fundraisers in the streets. This confuses the Police at what they should do.

Member Wiley said the City has allowed this to happen. With the Holiday season near, the City should allow the organizations to finish out the year. Change and enforce the Policy in 2001.

Following much discussion for and against the issue by the DAB the following recommendation was made.

Recommendation: **Sharon Fearey (Casados)** recommended to Council Member Cole and the City Council to request a Task Force to be formed. The Task Force should consist of City Staff and Non-profit agencies who solicit for fundraisers. The Task Force should establish a *permit system* that would allow non-profit agencies to solicit only if they followed specific guidelines, were granted the permit and were monitored on a random basis. Motion moved (6-4).

2. **Presentation on Office of Central Inspection (OCI) Procedures**

Deb Legge, OCI Supervisor, spoke on housing codes and residential zoning. There are 12 neighborhood inspectors and three of them are work in District VI. The active case load is 4,000. There are lots of apartment complexes that they also inspect. The inspectors also identify graffiti. If found, they send notices to the property owner to remove the graffiti, and if there is no response this is then turned over to Public Works who goes out and removes the graffiti and charges back to the property owner. Ms. Legge is the Condemnation Officer for the City. The condemnation process takes up to 10 months. Also, Ms. Legge is responsible for coordinating the neighborhood clean-ups. Included in the department are training classes for neighbors called *Neighbor to Neighbor, or Peer to Peer*.

Council Member Cole commented that when she first joined the Council, Ms. Legge was a neighborhood inspector along with Mr. Sparkman. Both have done incredible work and have closed many housing cases. They are doing a good job.

Member Matney stated that her neighborhood association recently had a clean-up and some neighbors who were not included in the area for clean-up, put their trash out on the curbs. Needless to say after the clean-up was over there was trash on many curbs. Ms. Legge and Officer Harbour coordinated another clean-up to collect the remaining trash. Thank you to Ms. Legge for the work she did.

Member Fearey asked with the County going back and forth on the trash issue, would neighborhood associations be able to continue clean-ups?

Ms. Legge responded that neighborhood clean-ups bring people together to get their areas clean. As far as she knows, clean-ups will continue. The last clean-up for this year is scheduled in November, so far there have been 86 clean-ups. The clean-up application system will probably be allowed again next year.

Randy Sparkman, Zoning Supervisor, spoke on commercial zoning and that his area works closely with the housing inspectors. Everything that needs a license from adult dancing, street corner vendors and garage sales, go through his division. There is much activity on the weekends when vendors know that City staff will not be out checking licenses. Due to the size of his staff, it is hard to do random checks for licenses. Also his division covers sign enforcement, Commercial or businesses. A graffiti program has been effective that allows the City to track graffiti control.

Council Member Cole commented that Mr. Sparkman's division also has the licensure for correctional housing.

Mr. Sparkman responded that at one time there were 30 correctional homes out of control and many were in District VI. With cooperative efforts between the City and County to control, inspect and license these homes, improvement has been made. His division makes sure the homes are up to date with various areas of OCI, the Health department and auditors who work with the program. This has been a benefit for neighborhoods to have this program.

Recommendation: Receive and File

OTHER BUSINESS

3a. Report On Alternative Correctional Housing

Council Member Cole explained that the 21-person board had been disbanded. It was a good ordinance. There was a motion to appoint a different board, but people would not know the history of this board. Due to a standards change was a major issue. Council Member Lambke voted with me to not get rid of the board but to replace with something else. I don't know if the Mayor will re-evaluate this.

Recommendation: Receive and File

3b. 13th & Meridian Car Lot

Council Member Cole stated that Greg Ferris visited with the Indian Hills Neighborhood Association and explained having the car lot in the neighborhood would be okay. This was after the car lot was denied by the DAB. I believe the neighborhood thought that with *Conditional Use* they could keep track of what was going on at the car lot.

Member Casados asked if it would do any good if any DAB member would go before MAPC? **Council Member Cole** responded that the MAPC had the DAB's vote.

Member Rangel stated that if the neighborhood association changed their mind about the car lot, they could change their mind about the 13th Street Bridge.

4. Problem Properties

- Water line on 20th at Waco. Bricks on the Street from 18th to 21st on Waco. Where new water line service was put in.
- Big Ditch-islands of branches near Womer over Interstate.
- 1857 N. Waco Building on Corner with various trucks. Is this an auto repair shop?
- Crosswalk at 25th and Amidon, the light on the SW corner doesn't work.
- Beth Eden Baptist Church-25th and Amidon. SW corner, rebar sticking out of ground –2ft high on city easement.

Recommendation: Receive and Take appropriate action.

5. Requests of Materials for October 18th DAB meeting- Northwest Traffic Study

- Maps on houses marked to be removed at 21st, 25th, 13th, West and the river.
- Traffic counts for today's traffic not 2030
- List of cost for each bridge and how many homes would be removed.
- Federal guidelines for noise.
- Fact sheet
- John Van Walleghen will notify the Peterson's

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Terri Dozal, District VI Neighborhood Assistant